



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Department of Educational Leadership Course Syllabus

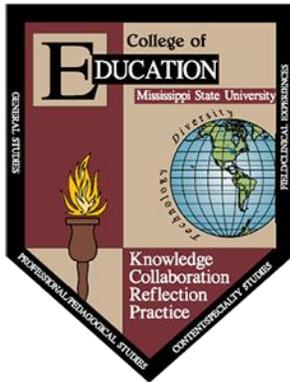
EDL 8423 School Leadership

Credit Hours: Three (3) credit hours

Method of Instruction: C = Lecture

Catalog Description: 3 credit hours. The focus of the course is on effectively leading and managing the school within the political and social context of high stakes accountability for student learning.

College of Education Conceptual Framework



The faculty in the College of Education at Mississippi State University are committed to assuring the success of students and graduates by providing learning opportunities that are continually improved as society, schools, and technology change. The organizing theme for the conceptual framework for the College of Education at Mississippi State University is educational professionals - dedicated to continual improvement of all students' educational experiences. The beliefs that guide program development center on the tenets of knowledge, collaboration, reflection, and practice. For additional information, please visit <https://www.educ.msstate.edu/about/framework/>.

Course Objectives

To successfully complete the course, candidates are expected to master seven (7) course objectives. With these objectives, candidates are required utilize the National Educational Leadership Preparation (NELP) Standards (Standards 1 - 7) as designed by the Council for Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and the National Policy Board for Educational Administration (NPBEA) and the Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSEL) developed collaboratively as led by NPBEA. Course objectives are also linked to the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) Standards for Advanced Programs. Further, the goals are linked to the indicators in the College Framework Program Outcomes (CFPO) document at Mississippi State University as well as the Culturally Responsive Teaching Practices (CRT).

1. Understand the application of the Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSEL) developed by a collaborative of professional educational organizations led by the National Policy Board for Educational Administration (NPBEA) to the role of educational leaders (ELCC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7; NELP 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7; PSEL 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10; CAEP A1.1, A1.2; CRT 2.1, 2.2, 7.1, 14.1; CFPO 3, 8)
2. Demonstrate understanding of a shared vision of what the school can and should be in relation to student behavior and academic achievement, support services, building and grounds, technology, safety and security, and service to the community (ELCC 1.3; NELP 1.2; PSEL 10a, 10b, 10d, 10g, 10h, 10j; CAEP A1.1, A1.2; CRT 4.1, 4.2, 6.1, 8.1, 10.1, 12.1; CFPO 3, 5)

3. Understand selected theories and strategies (e.g., systems theory) relevant to effectively leading and managing a school (ELCC 3.1; NELP 6.1; PSEL 4e, 9b, 9f, 9g; CAEP A1.1, A1.2; CRT 9.2, 14.1; CFPO 3, 5)
4. Understand "organizational culture theory" to the degree required for assessing, shaping, and sustaining a positive school culture that encourages appropriate student behavior, high academic achievement, and good staff morale (ELCC 2.1; NELP 2.1, 7.1, 7.2, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.3; PSEL 2b, 2c, 2d, 3a, 3c, 3e, 3g, 3h; CAEP A1.1, A1.2; CRT 2.2, 4.1, 7.1; CFPO 3, 5)
5. Develop the capability to take a leadership role in promoting positive change and encouraging school improvement (ELCC 1.3; NELP 1.2; PSEL 10a, 10b, 10d, 10g, 10h, 10j; CAEP A1.1, A1.2; CRT 4.1, 4.2, 6.1, 8.1, 10.1, 12.1; CFPO 3, 5)
6. Make researched-based (e.g., effective schools literature) and data-driven decisions that result in effective and efficient school operations (e.g., quality faculty meetings) deploying fiscal and human resources in ways which promote student achievement (ELCC 3.1; NELP 6.1; PSEL 4e, 9b, 9f, 9g; CAEP A1.1, A1.2; CRT 9.2, 14.1; CFPO 3, 5)
7. Understand the expected roles, work demands, and professional and personal challenges facing principals so candidates assess their own readiness, dispositions, and career goals in preparation for entry into school leadership. (ELCC 3.1, NELP 6.1; PSEL 4e, 9b, 9f, 9g; CAEP A1.1, A1.2; CRT 9.2, 14.1; CFPO 3, 5)

Detailed Course Outline/Topics Covered in the Course

Course topics (45 hours of instruction) provide a foundation for leadership content to be addressed throughout the program. Specific course topics address national leadership standards and the application to course content; leadership needed for mission and vision development, articulation, and implementation; putting organizational and leadership theories and strategies into action; creating positive school culture lead curriculum, student achievement, and to engage teachers, students, and parents; utilizing research-based and data-driven decision making and problem solving; overseeing general school operations; establishing and maintaining student discipline; and communicating effectively. Major topics and related subtopics follow.

Topics, Subtopics, and Duration
Review and application of Educational Leadership Standards (5 hours) Objective targeted: 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSEL) • Alignment of course content to PSEL standards
Vision for Leadership and Learning (10 hours) Objectives targeted: 2, 3, 5, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review, reflection, and application of school leadership vision and mission • Review, reflection, and application of school leadership role and attributes • Review, reflection, and application of leading a learning community • Review, reflection, and application of engaging in systemic planning for school improvement • Reflecting on a personal theory of practice regarding learning leadership
Positive School Climate and Culture (15 hours) Objectives targeted: 4, 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review, reflection, and application on curriculum and student achievement • Review, reflection, and application of human resource development
Managing a School Organization – Internal and External (15 hours) Objectives targeted: 6, 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review, reflection, and application of staffing and supporting staff • Review, reflection, and application of school management including time, fiscal, operations, budgeting, maintenance • Review, reflection, and application of technology applications in schools
Total hours: 45 contact hours

Text(s)/Course Materials

Ubben, G. C., Hughes, L. W., & Norris, C. J. (2016). *The principal: Creative leadership for Excellence in schools*. (3rd ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson

Description of Instruction

In this lecture course, a variety of instructional methods will be employed. Specific instructional methods include shared inquiry discussion, guided instruction, and hands-on learning activities which require candidates to demonstrate their learning through case scenarios, simulations, online book study group discussions, peer-led activities, group projects, and independent research applying course content to professional standards.

The Meridian Campus offers a non-traditional delivery format with weekend sessions to accommodate busy educational professionals and the choice of face-to-face and blended classes.

The Starkville Campus offers an online format with a combination of synchronous online class meetings as well as asynchronous online learning opportunities to accommodate educational professionals who desire flexibility in degree and licensure programs.

Mississippi State University Honor Code

“As a Mississippi State University student, I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do.”

Upon accepting admission to Mississippi State University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor Code. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be dealt with according to MSU policy. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the MSU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor Code.

For additional information visit: <http://students.msstate.edu/honorcode>.

Technology

Candidates are expected to make regular use of technology for accessing class materials, activities, and assessments. Word processing, use of PowerPoint, spreadsheets, graphs, charts, posters, and e-mails are essential skills students will utilize. Candidates will be required to access MSU's Canvas portal to complete, upload, collaborate, and present applicable assignments for applicable course formats.

Diversity

As the objectives and topics presented previously indicate, diversity (e.g., religion, ethnicity) will be addressed throughout the course in relation to lectures, assigned readings, and discussions.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities in need of accommodations to meet the expectations of this course are encouraged to bring this need to the attention of the instructor and should register with the Office of Student Support Services as soon as possible. The Office of Student & Disability Support Services is located in 01 Montgomery Hall and can be reached via telephone at (662) 325-3335.

<http://www.sss.msstate.edu>

Field Component

Candidates in the educational leadership program will be current practitioners employed in a school setting, and the field component will be based at that school. Thus, they will have the regular responsibilities and ongoing interaction with practicing school leaders, teachers, and students. In rare instances where a candidate is not currently employed as in a P-12 setting, they will be placed in a school by the Office of Clinical and Field-Based Instruction.

Evaluation of Student Progress

The following assignment types may be used for program candidate evaluation. Course credit is three (graduate) semester hours. Candidates' grades for the course will be determined according to five criteria: participation, interaction, reading/writing assignments, problem-based learning projects, and quizzes including the final examination.

Scholarly analytical papers and presentations, individual and group collaborative projects/assignments, and quizzes, midterm and final examinations will comprise 80% of the final grade; student participation, assigned discussions, and demonstration of learning in course seminars comprise 20% of the final grade. A separate *Dates and Specifications Sheet* will be provided listing the details of each required class assignment.

Assessment Types and Activities:

20% of a Candidate's final grade will be comprised of:

- Class participation: Candidates are expected to attend to all assignments in a timely manner and participate in online as well as any face-to-face learning experiences.
- Class discussions related to various course content topics: Candidates will be required to interact with course material, instructor, and classmates in rich discussions and applications of course content. APA format is expected where applicable.

80% of a Candidate's final grade will be comprised of:

- Scholarly analytical papers related to course content and topics: Candidates will be required to complete written analytical papers to be assessed based on depth of analysis and application of the content, organization and communication of written information, oral/written communication essentials, and correct citation and format based on current APA guidance.
- Group collaboration: Candidates will engage in collaborative projects with classmates for presentations to the group; candidates will be assessed based on the quality, understanding, application, and presentation of assignment as a group assessment and individual interaction and contribution to the overall team product. APA format is expected where applicable.
- Individual projects: Candidates will engage in individual projects that may require research, presentation, and/or submission. APA format is expected where applicable.
- Field experiences: Students will have ongoing interaction with practicing educational leaders through the completion of field assignments as listed in the accompanying Dates and Specifications document. Each course in the program leading to leadership licensure will contain field components as part of course requirements.
- Quizzes, mid-term assessment, and final examination: Candidates will engage in the listed assessments which could take the form of multiple-choice, true/false, short answer, and/or essay. APA format is expected where applicable.

Grading Scale

100.00% - 90.00%	A
89.99% - 80.00%	B
79.99% - 70.00%	C

69.99% - 60.00% D
Below 60.00% F

Attendance Policy

Candidates are expected to attend classes, submit assignments, and participate in class discussions and discussion boards as well as group collaboration as a member of a group of professional graduate students. In accordance with university policy (AOP 12.09), students are expected to attend all classes. AOP 12.09 also defines what is an excused absence. When an absence from class is essential, the student must inform the instructor via email and provide appropriate documentation.

Title IX Policy

MSU is committed to complying with Title IX, a federal policy that prohibits discrimination, including violence and harassment, based on sex. This means that MSU's educational programs and activities must be free from discrimination based on sexual orientation, sexual harassment, and other forms of sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know has experienced discrimination, sexual violence and/or harassment by any member of the University community, you are encouraged to report the conduct to MSU's Director of Title IX IEEO Programs at 325-8124 or by e-mail to titleix@msstate.edu. Additional resources are available at <http://www.msstate.edu/web/security/title9-12.pdf>, and at <http://students.msstate.edu/sexualmisconduct/>.

University Safety Statement

Mississippi State University values the safety of all campus community members. Students are encouraged to register for Maroon Alert texts and to download the Everbridge App. Visit the Personal Information section in Banner on your mystate portal to register. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort via Safe Walk, call University Police at 662-325-2121, or in case of emergency, call 911. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit ready.msstate.edu.

Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics

This code shall apply to all persons licensed according to the rules established by the Mississippi State Board of Education and protects the health, safety and general welfare of students and educators. Ethical conduct is any conduct which promotes the health, safety, welfare, discipline and morals of students and colleagues. Unethical conduct is any conduct that impairs the license holder's ability to function in his/her employment position or a pattern of behavior that is detrimental to the health, safety, welfare, discipline, or morals of students and colleagues. Any educator or administrator license may be revoked or suspended for engaging in unethical conduct relating to an educator/student relationship (Standard 4). Additional information on the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics 10 standards is available at https://www.mdek12.org/sites/default/files/documents/code-of-ethics_final.pdf.

Candidates are expected to abide by the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics through all course activities.

Mississippi College and Career-Ready Standards

Content standards outline the skills and knowledge expected of students from grade to grade and subject to subject. In addition to the Mississippi College and Career-Readiness Standards, the Mississippi Department of Education has developed a wide variety of training materials for educators and administrators across the state.

The Educational Leadership programs require candidates to develop and apply deep understanding of critical concepts, principles, and practices through the study of research on course topics, analysis of relevant publications, application of course content in actual school and classroom settings, interviews

and reflections with key school personnel, and analysis of case studies related to course content. All content covered aligns to applicable leadership standards and requires candidates to simulate implementation of leadership tasks associated with cultivating systems, processes, and procedures all ultimately focused on leadership structures supporting student proficiency of college and career-readiness standards.

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